Appl. No. 10/009,579 Amdt. dated July 15, 2005 Reply to Office Action of Feb. 16, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An isolated and/or recombinant
- 2 nucleic acid comprising a tissue specific promoter or
- 3 <u>functional fragment thereof</u> a nucleic acid sequence as shown
- from about position -778 to about position -422 in Figure 1
- or a nucleic acid functionally equivalent thereto, allowing
- for expression of a nucleic acid of interest operably linked
- 7 to said promoter or functional fragment thereof in a cancer
- 8 cell wherein said expression in said cancer cell is
- 9 essentially carcinoma epithelium-selective.
- 1 Claim 2 (original): A nucleic acid according to claim 1
- wherein said carcinoma comprises lung carcinoma.

Claim 3 (canceled)

- 1 Claim 4 (currently amended): A nucleic acid according to
- 2 claim 31 of derived from a human origin.
- 1 Claim 5 (previously presented): A nucleic acid according to
- 2 claim 1 further comprising a nucleic acid of interest.
- 1 Claim 6 (currently amended): A nucleic acid according to
- 2 claim 1 further comprising an inducable inducible or
- 3 suppressible promoter or functional fragment thereof.

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- 1 Claim 7 (previously presented): A nucleic acid according to
- 2 claim 1 further comprising a suicide gene or functional
- 3 fragment thereof.
- 1 Claim 8 (previously presented): A vector comprising a
- 2 nucleic acid according to claim 1.
- 1 Claim 9 (previously presented): A gene delivery vehicle
- 2 comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 1.
- Claim 10 (previously presented): A host cell comprising a
- 2 nucleic acid according to claim 1.

Claims 11-13 (withdrawn)

- Claim 14 (previously presented): A medicament comprising a
- 2 nucleic acid according to claim 1.

Claims 15-18 (withdrawn)

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- Claim 19 (new): A method for the manufacture of a fusion construct allowing for epithelium-selective gene expression comprising the steps of
 - (a) constructing a genetic fusion of a nucleic acid as shown from about -778 to about position -422 in Fig. 1, or a nucleic acid functionally equivalent thereto, operably linked to a gene of interest,
 - (b) introducing the fusion construct in an epithelial cell and in a non-epithelial cell and allowing expression of the fusion construct; and
 - (c) determining whether said fusion construct is expressed in an epithelium-selective fashion.

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- 13 Claim 20 (new): A method in accordance with claim 19 wherein
- said gene of interest is a suicide gene.
- 1 Claim 21 (new): A method in accordance with claim 20 wherein
- 2 said suicide gene is thymidine kinase or cytosine
- deaminase (CD).
- 1 Claim 22 (new): A fusion construct allowing for epithelium
- 2 selective gene expression obtained in accordance with the
- 3 method of claim 19.
- 1 Claim 23 (new): A medicament comprising a fusion construct
- 2 in accordance with claim 22.